

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF AGING
July 14, 2014**

COA MEMBERS	DOA STAFF	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED	GUESTS
Mary Beachley	Sue Ramsburg	Ernell Graham		RaeAnn Butler
Elizabeth Chung	Pat Rosensteel			Carol Krimm
Don Cilla	Carolyn True			Jenny Short
David Gray, Comm				Bree Baldwin
Carol Haag				
Ann Holiday				
Tom Lawler				
Randy McClement, Mayor				
Katie Rhinehart				
Virginia Skelley				
Cynthia White				

- I. **Call to Order** – Ginny Skelley called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Ginny welcomed all attendees. Guests and new members were present at today's meeting so introductions were done around the table
- III. **Action on the Agenda** – There are no additions to the agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the May 12 and June 9, 2014 meetings were approved with no revisions. All were in favor.

V. Commissioner's Report – Commissioner Gray stated that the budget was approved on Primary Election Day. He encouraged members to send any questions to the candidates' email addresses and you will get information on their position on issues. Both candidates for County Executive have served as a Commissioner for Frederick County. He stated that anyone can find current local issues on the County website at www.frederickcountymd.gov.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Randy McClement commented that there are no elections currently going on for the City. There have been some issues with weather related damage. There was some major damage done by large trees in a local neighborhood. The City is responsible for the "street" trees. He stated that Potomac Edison keeps track of seniors/citizens with special needs. Carolyn stated that the Meals on Wheels staff keep track of seniors serviced by that program who may have special needs.

VI. Mission Moment, Jenny Short, Housing Department - Jenny distributed some information regarding the services/programs managed by the Housing Department. One of the programs is the housing voucher program which assists approximately 500 families. There is a need for more funding for this type of program as it consistently has a wait list. The wait list will open again later this year. Anyone can sign up to be on the wait list, but specific criteria will be verified as participants get close to the top of the list.

Bell Court is a senior specific rental option located in Woodsboro. There are 28 units and serves very low income seniors. This was developed in partnership with Interfaith Housing in the mid 1990s.

There are homeowner repair/rehab programs which help citizens remain in their home longer. Most of these programs require a lien to be placed on the property so they are not as popular with senior citizens. Accessible Homes for Seniors is an upcoming grant program with \$25,000 funding and will not require the lien. This is a state program.

There are three developer programs in the works which provide incentives for development in the county. There is a new program in place which allows developers to contribute funds to a land trust in lieu of building affordable housing. This program leads to a shortage of affordable housing and multi family units. The Land Trust has purchased three properties. There will be a meeting tonight at 6:00

regarding the Sharpe's Florist property which is a purposed site for low income senior housing.

There is no liaison from this commission on the Affordable Housing Council. The Affordable Housing Commission meets quarterly on the first Monday at 2:30.

VII. Candidate Question Update, Ginny Skelley - No discussion today on the status of this question.

There was some brief discussion about hosting a candidate breakfast or meeting. Carol, Ginny, and Don will work on coordinating this event. There was also a suggestion to have a gathering of state delegation and all new candidates to discuss senior issues after the election.

Business Task Force/Chamber Update, Carol Krimm - Carol reported that there are three businesses who are interested in joining this Task Force. Carol would like to set up a first meeting with these businesses and anyone else interested. Those interested from this group are RaeAnn Butler, Ernell Graham, Ginny Skelley, Katie Rhinehart, Tom Lawler, and Don Cilla. Carol will set up a date with the businesses and get back to members. The group will plan to meet at the Frederick Senior Center. RaeAnn will reach out to larger businesses to solicit interest. Elizabeth will check with (FMH) Frederick Memorial Hospital. Katie will also check with someone at FMH. Carol suggested someone from the City of Frederick Human Resources Department attend. Mayor McClement agreed. Carol will contact someone at Ft Detrick.

VIII. CoA Strategic Plan, Ginny Skelley – The subcommittee did meet since last month's meeting. There was much discussion regarding the current Vision/Mission Statement and Commission Goals. Email suggestions were received from Tom and Elizabeth.

The suggested Vision statement is "Frederick County is a supportive community for older adults that promotes safe, healthy and vital lives now and in the future". It was suggested that the Vision statement may work for the DoA as well as the CoA. The Dept of Aging is currently tasked with serving older adults as well as people with disabilities who may not be older adults. Ginny made a motion this become the Vision statement for the CoA. Katie seconded the motion. All were in favor.

There was much discussion regarding the Mission statement. It was mentioned that the suggested new mission statement sounds very similar to the purpose listed in the by-laws. There were some

suggestions to the proposed statement. This group also discussed the proposed goals. There was a suggestion that the questions were overlapping and should be combined. The goals need to be specific and have a timeline attached. This could be a three or five year strategic plan. The subcommittee will plan to meet again to restate the mission and revamp the proposed goals based on today's discussion. There may be some discussion done via email communication. There should be a clear goal and vision in place when the new government begins.

Healthcare Coalition Elderly Support Group, Don Cilla – Don attends a subcommittee of the Healthcare Coalition which is a group focusing on issues which affect the local healthcare condition. He brought information to this meeting regarding the subcommittee's objective of healthcare and related issues that affect the aging population. There is a separate group, Advocates for Aging in Frederick County, which is working on the aging portion of this Coalition. There is an interest in senior issues, health related needs, and end of life issues. They want to reach out to the CoA and DoA for information. The DoA currently participates with the Health Care Coalition. Due to time restraints, this may be discussed again at a future meeting.

Consider a Change in the By-Laws, Ginny Skelley – There may be an issue with the numbers of providers on this Commission because members may become providers after joining the Commission. The By-laws state the CoA should consist of no more than twenty percent providers. There may be a need to change to the By-laws. The definition of provider is at the Commission's discretion. There will need to be changes made to the By-laws to reflect the changes in the type of county government system.

- IX. Nominations, Katie Rhinehart** – Katie reported that there are five open positions and some interested parties; however more members are needed for the Nomination Committee. Carol Haag volunteered to become a member. There is room for only one more service provider and two more over 60 years of age. There is still a need for a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. This will be a special election as Ginny is resigning her position as Vice Chair effective the end of today's meeting. Members elected as Chair and Vice Chair will assume these positions until the next formal election in January 2015. Katie nominated Carol Haag for Chairperson and Ginny seconded this motion. All were in favor. Katie nominated Don Cilla for Vice Chair. Ginny seconded this motion. All were in favor. There is no other nomination business for today.

Legislative, Ginny Skelley – No report.

USM, Don Cilla – Don will report at next meeting.

Partners in Care, Ernell Graham – Ernell was not at today's meeting. No report.

Adult Disabled Review Board, Ann Holiday – Ann has not been able to attend as her appointment did not come in time for her to attend the last meeting.

State CoA, – Carol Haag commented that the meeting is coming up at the Hagerstown Community College to discuss the Village Concept on September 10th. Louise is attempting to get more seats so that CoA members from Frederick County could attend. Persons interested in attending are Carol Haag, Mary Beachley, Don Cilla, and Elizabeth Chung.

Director, Carolyn True –Carolyn distributed a report with department statistics for end of 2014 and July statistics for federal grants.

She reported that there have been workshops in various municipalities for the Senior Property Tax Credit to ensure seniors are aware of this program and are able to apply.

There was a health and benefit fair at the Emmitsburg Senior Center. This was fulfillment of a grant requirement. The turnout was not as strong as was hoped.

The DoA will be applying for a grant from the Community Foundation for the Partners in the Arts program which is managed by the Caregiver Program. This is a partnership with the Delaplaine Center and the Alzheimer's Association. The program allows people with in the beginning stages of Alzheimers to interact with caregivers during art classes. This program is very well received. RaeAnn suggested that requests for sponsorship may be another option for funding.

There has been an advertisement for the Volunteer Coordinator for the Meals on Wheels program. It was advertised through the County as well as Volunteer Maryland. Eight applications have been received and Kitty is doing phone interviews this week. Face to face interviews will be started in August. The hope is to have someone in place by September.

There was a public form held last month regarding the Community Options Waiver. There were over 100 attendees statewide with concerns expressed regarding the initial rollout. The Department of

Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) will have a meeting on July 23rd to address these concerns. A major concern is the decrease in hours of personal care for long time participants. There are 42 clients receiving these services in Frederick County.

There is a new MoW route in Crestwood Village. There are more clients receiving services. This route which is managed by Crestwood volunteers allows other volunteers to deliver to a new Tuscarora route. The Information and Assistance program also goes to Crestwood monthly to provide services. The gaps for MoW program are in Western Frederick County, Middletown, New Market/Mt Airy, and Johnsville area. The Department is still working on these gaps but there are variables that hinder the progress. Advocacy is a role that would be helpful from this Commission.

Complaints from the nursing homes may range from quality of care issues, an assumed delay in services, lost medical equipment items and/or lost personal items. Reports of abuse or neglect are investigated by the Ombudsman and, if necessary, reported to the Office of Healthcare Quality. Reports from assisted living are also reported to the Office of Healthcare Quality.

Carol inquired about the status of the budget. Carolyn reported that the budget was approved and an additional \$50,000 in contract services for RFPs (request for proposal) going forward for contracts for handyman services, respite care, and possibly additional meals to help keep people in their homes. There is also funding for a case manager position for the Senior Care program which will be posted soon. There is no information regarding funding from the federal level and the funding from the state will remain the same.

- X. Announcements** – There will be a webinar presented by the American Society on Aging on August 5th at 1:00. Carol plans to attend this webinar and inquired if anyone was interested in attending. The subject will be “Managing in an Unmanageable World.”

- XI. Public Comment** – No public comment

The meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick County Commission on Aging
07/14/14

Susan M. Ramsburg
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

September 8, 2014, 1pm. Commission on Aging, Frederick Senior Center 1440
Taney Avenue, Frederick, MD.

September 30, 2014, CoA Executive Committee meeting, 10:00 at Frederick
County Dept of Aging